

Minutes of January 21, 2019 Board Meeting
Claremont Hotel, Berkeley Room

Present: Edgar Antonio
Carolyn Burgess
Steve Hanson
Chris Johnson
Dave McGuinness
Julie Nachtway
Sue Piper
Elizabeth Stage

Excused: Ken Cohen

Guest: Gordon Piper

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm

1. **Minutes of November 19, 2018** were approved as amended.
2. **Communications Committee**
 - a. **Letter to Mayor and City Administrator about Staffing in Vegetation Management Unit**—the Board unanimously approved signing a joint letter from NHCA, Oakland Firesafe Council, Montclair Neighborhood Council, and Piedmont Pines expressing deep concerns about the lack of progress on keeping the 5 Vegetation Management inspector positions filled year round, and that the Vegetation Management Units equipment—phones, vehicles, computers and desks—were reallocated to other inspectors, leaving the unit with little staff and no ability to do their job.
 - b. **Draft Resolution about Wildfire Prevention**—the Board unanimously approved seeking Council support for a resolution that would put the city on record as making wildfire prevention a top priority in deed as well as word.
 - c. **NHCA Website**—The Board approved moving ahead with engaging David Kerr Designs to design a new NHCA website at \$4,690. Elizabeth Stage and Julie Nachtway agreed to provide supplemental funding of \$300 each. Chris Johnson will contact David and work with a subcommittee of Elizabeth Stage and Sue Piper to move the project forward..

- d. **New Postcard**—the Board approved the mock up provided by Julie Nachtway and approved moving forward with distributing it to NHCA membership with the addition of the date of the Annual Meeting.
3. **Treasurer’s Report**—Treasurer Dave McGuinness shared a number of financial documents to provide a more precise picture of NHA’s financial status. For 2018, NHCA received \$7172.40 in donations and had 2,384.30 in expenses. There is \$1500 in a designated category for Emergency Preparedness; \$2600.78 in designated category for Gardens, leaving 12,500 in unrestricted funds. The Board requested that the next iteration of income and expenses over time show starting and ending balances.
 4. **Garden Committee**—
 - a. Edgar Antonio said he would put together 2019 goals and a budget for the February Board meeting.
 - b. He noted that the City has put a stop work order on the lot across from Gateway, but that the committee is working through Council Member Noel Gallo, who headed the Parks Department when the Gateway Garden was originally proposed, to see if we can move the project forward.
 - c. Sue Piper and Carolyn Burgess will be meeting with a potential new chair for the committee this week.
 - d. Edgar said he would send out a recruitment notice on Open Forum for additional volunteers and committee members.
 - e. Gordon Piper noted that we had a request from a previous WOOFER to come back to Oakland for 8 weeks during the summer. Sue Piper noted that they will try to find hosts for her during those 8 weeks, and asked if anyone on the Board was interested in helping out. Steve Hanson asked for additional information.
 5. **Annual Meeting**
 - a. Elizabeth Stage shared the logistics and timeline for planning the Annual Meeting, noting that we are a month behind last year’s schedule. The Board agreed to aim for holding the meeting the week of March 18—preferably Wednesday, March 20 or Thursday, March 21, depending on the availability of the keynote speaker.
 - b. Julie Nachtway agreed to contact our new Assemblywoman Buffy Wicks to see if she is available as the key note speaker.
 - c. Steve Hanson agreed to reserve the meeting room at the Highlands Country Club.

- d. Sue Piper agreed to chair the Annual Meeting Subcommittee (Elizabeth Stage and Carolyn Burgess) to manage the remaining details. Julie Nachtway agreed to donate a week at her place in Squaw Valley anytime in the Spring, Summer and Fall. Steve Hanson said he would contact Scotts for a donation. Chris Johnson will present recommendations for updating the Bylaws and for a slate of board members at the February meeting.
- e. The Board agreed to use the new Post Card that Julie Nachtway developed as a promotion for the annual meeting.

6. Public Safety Committee

February 28 Public Safety Committee Meeting—Sue Piper will contact United Policyholders to see if someone can speak on the impact of the 2017 and 2018 wildfires on availability of homeowners insurance and what that means to us in Oakland.

7. New Business

- a. OUSD Deficit and Impact on Kaiser School—Elizabeth Stage agreed to continue to monitor OUSD website and meetings to see how the School District’s approach to dealing with its massive deficit impacts our neighborhood Kaiser School.

8. Meeting Adjourned at 9 pm.